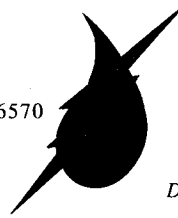


## **12.7 Pertinent Correspondence**

Pertinent correspondence is attached following this page.

# Placer County Water Agency

Business Center: 144 Ferguson Rd. • Mail: P.O. Box 6570 • Auburn, California 95604-6570  
(530) 823-4850 800-464-0030 TDD (530) 823-4966



*A Public Agency*

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*Pauline Rocucci • Alex Ferreira  
Otis Wollan • Lowell Jarvis  
Michael R. Lee  
David A. Breninger, General Manager  
Ed Tiedemann, General Counsel*

February 20, 2002

Bob Childs, Senior Project Manager  
Corps of Engineers  
1325 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

Re: PMF at LL Anderson Dam  
Reply to your letter of February 8, 2002

Dear Mr. Childs:

The Placer County Water Agency is aware that the Corps of Engineers has recalculated its PMF for the Agency's LL Anderson Dam (French Meadows Reservoir) based upon the latest hydro-meteorological data, and it has concluded that the dam could fail in a 1 in 10,000 year event without improvements. The Agency is also aware that the Corps is proposing to include improvements to the flood handling capacity of LL Anderson Dam as part of the Corps' plan to upgrade Folsom Dam to meet its PMF requirements based on its analysis that it is the least-cost alternative to improvements at Folsom Dam.

The Agency has engaged the services of Dr. Jack Cassidy to assist in the development of an independent study of the PMF at LL Anderson and a recommendation of the improvements, if any, that may be required. The Agency and its consultants will be working with the Division of Safety of Dams and others on this effort in the months ahead.

The Agency is not in a position at this time to reach any conclusions as the necessity or appropriateness of the improvements proposed by the Corps' study. However, please feel free to contact me on the status of the Corps project as you find appropriate in the months ahead.

Sincerely,  
PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY

Einar L. Maisch,  
Director of Strategic Affairs

cc: PCWA Board of Directors  
David Breninger, General Manager  
Ed Tiedemann, General Counsel  
Steve Jones, Power System Manager  
Kevin Goishi, PG&E  
Jack Cassidy  
Kirk Rogers, Regional Director USBR  
Tom Aiken, Area Manager USBR

**THE RECLAMATION BOARD**

1416 NINTH STREET, ROOM 1601  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
(916) 653-5434 FAX: (916) 653-5805  
Permits: (916) 653-5726 FAX: (916) 653-5805



Colonel Michael J. Conrad, Jr.  
District Engineer, Sacramento District  
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers  
1325 J Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Colonel Conrad:

The Reclamation Board indicates its intent, by this letter, to be a nonfederal sponsor for the flood damage reduction elements of the American River Watershed Project recommended in the Supplemental Plan Formulation Report, Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report dated February 2002. This intent will be set forth again in a Reclamation Board resolution later this year.

The recommended plan proposes to raise the Folsom Dam by an additional 7-feet. Under this alternative, the concrete portions of Folsom Dam outside of the spillway area would be raised to accommodate a higher flood control pool. This plan will increase flood control space within the reservoir by 96,000 acre-feet and correct an existing dam safety problem so that the Probable Maximum Flood would be passed without dam failure. The additional storage capacity would increase flood protection provided for the Sacramento Metropolitan Area to a 1-in-213 (0.47 percent) chance of flooding in any given year. The urgent need for this increase in flood protection is described in the EIS/EIR prepared in cooperation with The Reclamation Board and the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency.

After federal, State, and local authorizations and appropriations, the Board and SAFCA would enter into a local cooperation agreement to provide all nonfederal requirements for lands, easements, rights of way, relocations, and cash contributions, as required and in accordance with the Water Resources Development Act of 2002, which is anticipated to be heard by the U. S. Congress later this year. Before approving the project and entering into the local cooperation agreement, The Board would comply with the California Environmental Quality Act. Submittal of this Letter of Intent is not an obligation of future un-appropriated State funds by the California Legislature.

If you have any questions, please contact Peter Rabbon, General Manager of The Reclamation Board, at (916) 653-5434.

Sincerely,

  
Betsy Marchand, President  
The Reclamation Board

Honorable Mary D. Nichols,  
Secretary of Resources  
The Resources Agency  
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1311  
Sacramento, California 95814

Thomas M. Hannigan,  
Department of Water Resources  
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1115-1  
Sacramento, California 95814

F.I. (Butch) Hodgkins, Executive Director  
Sacramento Area Flood Control Association  
1007 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Fifth floor  
Sacramento, California 95814



Sacramento  
Area Flood  
Control  
Agency

February 22, 2002

Colonel Michael Conrad  
District Engineer  
Sacramento District  
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers  
1325 J Street  
Sacramento, California 95814-2922

Dear Colonel Conrad:

This is to inform you that the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA) intends to serve as the local sponsor, in cooperation with the California Reclamation Board (Reclamation Board), of the plan to reduce flood damages along the American River in Sacramento, California by raising Folsom Dam seven feet and enlarging the dam's designated flood control pool by 95,000 acre-feet as described in the American River Watershed Investigation, Long-Term Study - Supplemental Plan Formulation Report/Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (Report). SAFCA further intends to serve as the non-Federal sponsor for the following three ecosystem restoration plans described in the Report: Woodlake, Bushy Lake and Folsom Dam Temperature Shutter Mechanization. These intentions are reflected in the attached Resolution 02-010, which was adopted by the SAFCA Board on February 21, 2002.

Subsequent to Federal, State and local authorization and appropriation, and only after completion of the review process required under the California Environmental Quality Act, the Reclamation Board and SAFCA will enter into a local cooperation agreement to provide all non-Federal requirements for lands, easements, rights of way, relocations, and cash contributions necessary to proceed with the above-referenced plans in accordance with applicable provisions of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (PL 99-662). Submittal of this letter of intent is not an obligation of future unappropriated State funds by the California Legislature, nor of local agency funds.

If you have any questions, please have your staff contact F. I. "Butch" Hodgkins, Executive Director of SAFCA at (916) 874-7606.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger Dickinson", is written over a horizontal line.

Roger Dickinson, Chair  
Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency

exsec\tnw\0222conrad.doc  
Attachment

Office 916-874-7606  
FAX 916-874-8289

1007 - 7th Street, 7th Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814-2407

## **RESOLUTION NO. 02-010**

Adopted by the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency

### **IDENTIFYING THE LOCALLY PREFERRED PLAN FOR FLOOD DAMAGE REDUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION ALONG THE AMERICAN RIVER**

WHEREAS, up to 400,000 people and \$30.0 billion worth of property are at risk of flooding in the Sacramento region; and

WHEREAS, the record flood of 1986 demonstrated significant deficiencies in Sacramento's flood control system including inadequate storage capacity to safely contain large floods in the American River watershed; and

WHEREAS, SAFCA was formed in 1989 to cooperate with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the California Reclamation Board (Reclamation Board) in developing a comprehensive plan to provide the Sacramento region with a high level of protection comparable to other river cities throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, the cooperating agencies agreed that the center piece of the plan should be construction of a new detention dam at the confluence of the middle and north forks of the American River; and

WHEREAS, in 1992 and again in 1996, Congress rejected the detention dam plan as an overly costly and environmentally damaging solution to Sacramento's flood control problems; and

WHEREAS, in light of these rejections, SAFCA opted to pursue an incremental approach to improving Sacramento's flood control system focusing on common denominator projects that could be linked together on a step-by-step basis to provide increased flood protection; and

WHEREAS, this incremental approach has produced a series of improvements including:

- Strengthening the Sacramento River levees
- Implementing a safer flood control operation at Folsom Dam and Reservoir
- Raising and strengthening levees protecting North Sacramento and Natomas
- Strengthening the American River levees
- Securing Federal and State authorization for modifying Folsom Dam's outlet works so as to improve the dam's flood control capability
- Securing Federal and State authorization for improving the levees along Morrison Creek and its tributaries in South Sacramento County; and

WHEREAS, even with all of these improvements in place, the area's flood control system will not provide adequate protection for such a highly urbanized floodplain with such an extraordinary potential for property damage and loss of life in the event of uncontrolled flooding; and

WHEREAS, Congress has recognized the need for additional improvements to the flood control system along the American River and has directed the Corps to evaluate the feasibility of implementing the following measures singly or in combination:

- Increasing Folsom Dam's flood storage capacity by enlarging the dam, and
- Increasing the conveyance capacity of the levee system downstream of the dam; and

WHEREAS, in connection with all such flood damage reduction evaluations, Congress has also authorized the Corps to identify opportunities for restoring ecosystem values that may have been damaged as a result of prior Corps projects; and

WHEREAS, in response to these Congressional mandates, the Corps has prepared the American River Watershed Investigation, Long-Term Study - Supplemental Plan Formulation Report/Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (Report); and

WHEREAS, the Report evaluates eight flood damage reduction alternatives focusing on enlarging Folsom Dam and/or modifying the downstream levee system and five ecosystem restoration alternatives focusing on enhancement of the landscape in the American River Parkway and/or improvements to Folsom Dam; and

WHEREAS, the Report concludes that of the eight flood damage reduction alternatives, the most cost-effective is the seven-foot Folsom Dam enlargement plan that would increase the storage capacity of the reservoir by 95,000 acre-feet and provide protection from floods with a 1-in-213 annual risk of occurrence; and

WHEREAS, with the dam raise project, Sacramento will be protected from the largest flood that can be reasonably estimated for the American River Watershed using available data and current practices for flood frequency analysis - a flood more than 50 percent larger than any ever recorded in the watershed; and

WHEREAS, the Report further concludes that all five ecosystem restoration alternatives would be cost-effective and could be implemented with Federal cost-sharing support either separately or in combination with a flood damage reduction project; and

WHEREAS, in order to guide the Corps' completion of the Report, the Board adopted Resolution 01-087 indicating SAFCA's preference for the seven-foot Folsom Dam enlargement alternative and for three of the five ecosystem restoration alternatives: Woodlake, Bushy Lake, and Folsom Dam Temperature Shutter Mechanization; and

WHEREAS, a statement of SAFCA's intention to serve as the local sponsor for the preferred Folsom Dam enlargement alternative and the non-Federal sponsor for the preferred ecosystem restoration alternatives is needed in order to guide the Corps' recommendations to Congress in connection with the 2002 Water Resources Development Act; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding this intention, SAFCA cannot take any final action or make any legally binding decisions regarding these alternatives until the Corps and the Reclamation Board complete the environmental review process as required by the National Environmental Policy Act and the California Environmental Quality Act.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SACRAMENTO AREA FLOOD CONTROL AGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS THAT:**

1. SAFCA intends to cooperate with the Reclamation Board and serve as the local sponsor for the seven-foot Folsom Dam enlargement plan described in the American River Watershed Investigation, Long-Term Study - Supplemental Plan Formulation Report/Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (Report). As described in the Report, this plan would reduce the risk of flooding along the American River to a 1-in-213 chance in any one year. The plan includes the following principal components:
  - a. Raising Folsom Dam by seven feet from a current top elevation of 480.5-feet mean sea level (msl) to a new top elevation of 487.5 feet and raising the maximum design water surface elevation of the flood control pool to elevation 482 feet in order to provide space for an additional 95,000 acre-feet of seasonal flood control storage.
  - b. Constructing a two-lane detour bridge on Federal lands below Folsom Dam to accommodate traffic diverted from Folsom Dam Road during the project construction process.
  - c. Enlarging the L. L. Anderson Dam spillway in order to ensure that Folsom Dam can safely pass the calculated Probable Maximum Flood for the American River Watershed as required under applicable Federal dam safety standards.
2. SAFCA intends to serve as the non-Federal sponsor for the following ecosystem restoration alternatives as described in the Report:
  - a. Restoration of the Woodlake area comprising 283 acres of the American River Parkway between River Mile 2 and River Mile 4. The restoration plan for this site includes the eradication of nonnative invasive plant species; seeding to reestablish native grassland; and grading to restore the hydrologic interaction between the river and the floodplain and to provide appropriate floodplain elevations for planting riparian forest oak woodland and oak savanna plant species.
  - b. Restoration of the Bushy Lake area comprising 337 acres in the American River Parkway between River Mile 4 and River Mile 5.5. The restoration plan for this site includes installation of pumping and related surface water diversion and conveyance facilities to reconnect Bushy Lake to the Chicken/Strong Ranch Slough watersheds; construction of a treatment wetland to improve the quality of the water diverted to Bushy Lake; creation of ephemeral channels planted



with emergent wetland plant species, including a channel to carry high flows from Bushy Lake to the American River; terracing of steep river banks to accommodate planting of riparian forest oak woodland and oak savanna plant species; and eradication of nonnative invasive plant species.

- c. Mechanization of the temperature shutter systems on all three hydropower penstock intakes at Folsom Dam in order to permit dam operators to optimize their management of Folsom Reservoir's cold-water pool and thus improve seasonal water temperature conditions in the Lower American River for naturally spawning salmon and steelhead.

ON A MOTION BY Director Moose, seconded by Director Collin, the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the Board of Directors of the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, this 21st day of February 2002, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: Directors: Chase, Cohn, Collin, Dean, Dickinson, Fargo, Johnson, Macdonald, Moose, Niello, Nottoli, Silva, Tretheway

NOES: Directors: None

ABSTAIN: Directors: None

ABSENT: Directors: None

  
Chair of the Board of Directors of the  
Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

  
Deputy Clerk of the Board of Directors



# United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Central California Area Office  
7794 Folsom Dam Road  
Folsom, California 95630-1799

FEB 26 2002

IN REPLY REFER TO:

CC-410  
PRJ-13.00

Colonel Michael J. Conrad, Jr.  
District Engineer, Sacramento District  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
1325 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

Subject: American River Watershed, California, Long-Term Study – Dam Safety Program –  
Folsom Dam

Dear Colonel Conrad:

This letter responds to the Corps of Engineers request that the Bureau of Reclamation provide additional information on its dam safety activities at Folsom Dam that could be used in the Supplemental Plan Formulation Report/Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (SEIS/EIR) for the American River Watershed, California, Long-Term Study.

Our understanding has been that the Corps' funding policy has prevented the Corps from carrying out the dam safety roles and responsibilities under the current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that exists between the two agencies on Folsom Dam. Since Folsom Dam is a critical structure with massive consequences in the event of failure, Reclamation is greatly concerned that a viable and on-going program to insure the safety of the dam and reservoir be maintained. Therefore, Reclamation is currently conducting hydrologic, static, and seismic studies and risk assessments for Folsom Dam. While these studies are not complete, results indicate that some actions will need to be taken to insure that Folsom Dam will meet Reclamation dam safety objectives.

Reclamation recognizes that portions of the American River (Long-Term) project have dam safety implications, and that the project allocates costs between flood damage reduction and dam safety purposes. However, Reclamation also recognizes that authorization of the American River (Long-Term) project is not a certainty. Therefore, Reclamation will act in the best interests of managing the short- and long-term risks that exist at Folsom Dam. This includes continuing to pursue appropriate actions under our agency's dam safety process. Under Reclamation's current Dam Safety Program authorization ceiling, there would not be sufficient funding to implement a dam safety modification at Folsom Dam. Reclamation would need to seek Congressional support for additional funding for these modifications.

Should the American River (Long-Term) project be authorized, Reclamation will participate to the extent allowed in the legislation. We suggest that further discussion of funding issues, associated with this project, be held.

Reclamation would also like to meet with the Corps to discuss their position on dam safety roles and responsibilities for Folsom Dam, including revisions to the existing MOU between our two agencies, and to discuss the results of our dam safety studies for Folsom Dam when these studies are completed.

Hopefully, this information will assist you in completing your document. If you have any questions, or need any additional information, please contact Rick Johnson at 916-989-7181 (TDD 989-7285).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas J. Aiken". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Thomas" being the most prominent part.

Thomas J. Aiken  
Area Manager